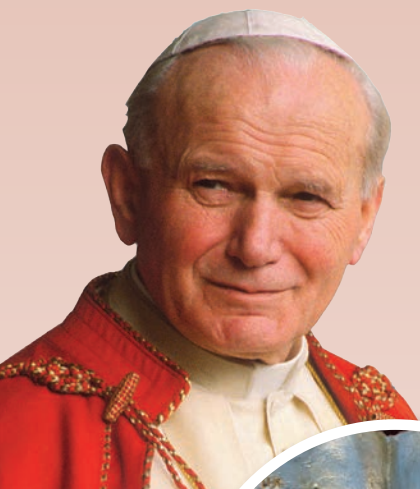


Visit of the Pilgrim Relic of the **Blood of St. John Paul II**



Pilgrims will be given the opportunity of a lifetime to venerate a first-class relic of St. John Paul II's blood that is contained in a glass ampoule at the center of a reliquary. By venerating the relics of St. John Paul II, pilgrims seek his intercession, receive spiritual graces for their families and loved ones, and obtain the courage and spiritual strength to imitate his saintly life and persevere in their Christian witness to the Gospel.



From the graces received in prayer before the relics of St. John Paul II, pilgrims and their families are renewed in their daily striving for holiness of life and in faith, hope, and charity. The Blood Relic of St. John Paul II is traveling with the Servants of the Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

for the final day of the
25th International
Week of Prayer and Fasting

Monday,
October 9, 2017
9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Basilica of the National Shrine
of the Immaculate Conception
in the
Our Lady of Czestochowa
Chapel in the upper church.**

Information about the First Class Blood Relic of St. John Paul II

The relic that we, the Servants of the Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary, have brought for veneration on this final day of the 25th International Week of Prayer and Fasting, is the official relic of the blood of St. John Paul II. It is the only relic of its kind that travels the world and, when not on pilgrimage around the world, is kept in the custody of Msgr. Slawomir Oder, the postulator for the cause of canonization of St. John Paul II. He and our Mother Foundress met at our second International Congress which she organized and invited him to speak at in 2012. The following year, Msgr. Oder entrusted the relic to Mother Adela Galindo, Foundress, SCTJM, and through her to the care of our Institute for a period of three weeks to take to different places within the United States. Since then, this is the fourth time the relic has been with us, travelling through the United States and Latin America.

The drops of blood are still liquefied, which is impressive after such a long time. The blood was originally drawn for medical testing, and what wasn't used was reserved. One vial was processed at his Mass of beatification, and the other was divided into smaller vials. There are four other reliquaries like this one, but each of these are stationary in places significant in the life of St. John Paul II – this is the only one that travels.

The reliquary is in the form of a book, recalling the Book of the Gospels that was laid on his coffin during his funeral Mass. Many recall the wind that turned the pages of the Gospels until the whole book finally closed, symbolic of the life of St. John Paul II who spent his life living and preaching the Gospel with his words and deeds.